

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 15 MAR 2005

WIPO PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference 497777 GWW/HRB/mht	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. <b>PCT/NZ2004/000003</b>	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 7 January 2004	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 7 January 2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC  <b>Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> A63G 7/00, 31/00; B61B 11/00</b>		
Applicant  ANDERSON, Keith Randal et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
  - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 1 sheets, as follows:
 

☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).  
☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
  - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |                                     |              |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the report   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. II   | Priority  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application   |

Date of submission of the demand 5 November 2004	Date of completion of the report 2 March 2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer  <b>KAREN VIOLANTE</b> Telephone No. (02) 6283 7933

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/NZ2004/000003

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1 (b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 2-15 as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* 1 received by this Authority on 5 November 2004 with the letter of 3 November 2004
- pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the claims:
- pages 16-21 as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages 1/11 – 11/11 as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.

**PCT/NZ2004/000003****Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-35	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-35	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-35	YES
	Claims	NO

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

Claims 1-35 meet the criteria set forth in PCT Articles 33(2)-(4) for novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability.

None of the citations disclose an amusement ride assembly including: a rotatable endless loop cable spanning between two stations; a drive system operable to rotate the loop cable; and a passenger carrier suspended from the cable, including a roller mechanism to enable the passenger carrier to free-roll along the cable and an associated clamping mechanism to alternatively fix the passenger carrier to the cable. The claims are novel.

It would not be obvious for a skilled addressee to arrive at the claimed arrangement from the teachings of the prior art.

The claims define subject matter that would be suitable for industrial application.

## **AMUSEMENT RIDE ASSEMBLY AND METHOD**

### **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

- 5 The present invention relates to an amusement ride assembly and method for passengers. In particular, although not exclusively, the invention may be employed for recreational purposes to provide an adrenalin ride.

### **BACKGROUND TO THE INVENTION**

10

Various aerial cableway systems are known for transporting passengers and/or goods along long mountain terrains, over canyons and rivers, and through other areas where no runways, railways or similar structures can or may be constructed.

- 15 In one form of cableway system a fixed cable is suspended between two or more stationary towers or stations, and one or more vehicles, such as carriages, cabs, or cars, travel along the cable via a roller suspension system. In a chair lift system a cable is driven by pulleys or bull wheels in end towers or stations and moves chairs carried by the cable between the towers and stations. The individual chairs are fixedly attached to  
20 and suspended from the moving traction cable.

- Recreational, adventure, and amusement rides utilising an aerial cableway system, such as flying foxes, are known. Typically, these rides depend for popularity upon a lengthy duration of brisk acceleration which quite often involves moving a passenger through  
25 bends and the like.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an alternative amusement ride assembly which at least provides a useful alternative.